December 24,2002

Department of the Army
Rock Island District
Corps of Engineers
Clock Tower Building
P O Box 2004
Reals Island H. (1204-2004)

Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

Attn: Planning, Programs and Project Management Division (Karen Hagerty)

We are writing in response to the findings of the Environmental Assessment (EA) findings for the land at the former Camp Daybreak site on the Coralville Reservoir. This assessment was done for the proposed lease of the land to the Muslim Youth Camps of America (MYCA) and had findings were no significant impact. We are questioning those findings.

The findings of this assessment state that there will be no significant impact on the roads, neighbors, environment and community **as** a whole. We have to question this.

The proposed development of this land by MYCA calls for 403 trees of various sizes to be removed. How can this not impact the environment? The loss of this many trees would have impact on many different animals which have made this area their home.

In addition what about the wastewater and disposal facility? As it stands now a variance would have to be granted by the Iowa DNR as the distance for this facility from residences and wells does not meet the minimum requirements. Reducing these requirements it would impact the neighborhood as a whole.

Road usage is another concern. Only 52 parking spaces are being provided in this proposal. When weddings & conferences are held in the main lodge where are the all the attendees going to park? On the neighborhood roads? These roads are not suitable for parking. Increased traffic is another concern. The assessment states traffic would only increase by approx 50 cars per day. While the assessment makes this number seem small, it is not. Fifty additional cars traveling on 200th St NE (a gravel road) would have great impact on this road. It is a gravel road and will not withstand this traffic. In addition the assessment states the cars going into the camp would not be traveling by the homes in the neighborhood with the exception of one home on 200th St. We are that one home on 200th St and it will have a great impact on us.

We are asking you to reevaluate this project and find that there will be a significant impact on the environment if this lease is allowed.

Respectively,

Karen L. Housel

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cc: Congressman James Leach, Senator Charles Grassley, Senator Tom Harkin